

Chapter 10 – Budget

The Great Lakes Network receives annual funding from the NPS Servicewide I&M Program (I&M) and the NPS Water Resources Division (WRD; Table 10.1). Funding has grown from \$82,000 in FY2000 during the biological inventory phase to \$1,742,600 in FY2005 during the planning stages of Vital Signs monitoring. Base funding was established in FY2005 with \$1,289,000 from I&M and \$121,278 from WRD. In 2006 I&M funding increased slightly to offset pay increases while WRD funding decreased by 1% as an across the board (ATB) reduction to all Networks. We expect funding to remain at about the 2006 level for the foreseeable future. Funding from other sources supported specific projects, including metadata training and soils mapping in FY2004 and vegetation mapping in 2005 and 2006. The Vegetation Mapping Program will continue funding vegetation maps until all nine parks are completed, currently scheduled for 2010, with annual funding averaging about \$500,000 per year.

Table 10.1. Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network funding for each fiscal year by source of funds.

Fiscal Year	Servicewide I&M Inventory	Servicewide I&M Vital Signs	Water Resource Division	Other Sources (non-base funding)
2000	\$82,000			
2001	\$245,700			
2002	\$225,800	\$150,000		
2003	\$311,800	\$811,500	\$123,000	
2004	\$333,600	\$1,286,000	\$123,000	\$16,427*
2005		\$1,289,000	\$121,278	\$422,902**
2006		\$1,292,500	\$120,100	\$598,800**

* = NPS Servicewide Soils Mapping Program and Federal Geographic Data Committee (metadata training)

** = NPS Servicewide Vegetation Mapping Program

Provisional accounting data for expenditures during the first year of implementation (2006) are summarized by expense category in Table 10.2. (These figures are provisional because this report is being completed within days of the end of the fiscal year and the full accounting cycle has not been completed; we expect < 0.1% variation in the data). In Table 10.3 we expand the categories to provide more detail on costs for each of the initial monitoring projects. In some cases, for example lab analysis for toxics under the bioaccumulative monitoring protocol under Contracts and Agreements, expenditures in 2006 will cover all or portions of costs for 2007. Similarly, many equipment purchases under the Operations and Equipment category (IT, water quality equipment) are the result of start-up costs that will be one-time expenditures.

During the first year of implementation (2006), the Network spent about 50% of base funding on personnel, with permanent staff accounting for 32% of all expenses. The Network has worked creatively with parks and other programs to share positions and, following the recommendation of the Board of Directors, has temporarily limited permanent staff to the current 5.8 full time equivalent (FTE) positions (see Chapter 8). These limits provided financial flexibility during implementation and have allowed the Network to determine protocol specific needs before committing a greater proportion of the budget to permanent staff. In 2007 and 2008, however, we expect permanent staff wages to increase as we implement additional protocols (see Chapter 8). Pending final decisions by the Board of Directors, permanent staffing costs may increase to just under 65% of total budget by 2010.

The budget summarized in Tables 10.2 and 10.3 are for the first year of implementation for long-term monitoring, which includes some piloting of monitoring methods. We expect the budget to change considerably during the first two to five years as we apportion funds to each protocol, as costs are better understood, and as new protocols are implemented. We are currently developing a five-year projected budget plan that will consider annual increases in fixed costs (wages, utilities), estimated travel costs, and other expected expenditures.

Table 10.2. Provisional accounting data for Vital Signs monitoring by the Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network in fiscal year 2006 (excludes vegetation mapping).

INCOME		
Vital Signs Monitoring	\$1,292,500	
Water Resources Division	\$120,100	
Subtotal	\$1,412,600	
EXPENDITURES		
	Total	%
Personnel (includes non-permanent staff)	\$705,220	49.9
Contracts and Cooperative Agreements	\$474,974	33.6
Operations/Equipment	\$185,850	13.2
Travel	\$43,732	3.1
Unspent balance and reconciliation	\$2,824	0.2
Subtotal	\$1,412,600	

Because of the substantial effort and funding directed toward information and data management during Phases 1 and 2, the Network is well positioned to manage data and make them available to parks and partners. During the first year of implementation, the Network spent approximately 35% of its resources to information/data management (Table 10.3).

Table 10.3. Provisional accounting of expenditures by the Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network during the first year of Vital Signs monitoring (2006) with detail related to specific Vital Signs.

INCOME			
Vital Signs Monitoring	\$1,292,500		
Water Resources Division	\$120,100		
Total Income	\$1,412,600		
		Data Management	
EXPENDITURES	Totals	%	\$
Permanent Employees			
Network Coordinator (GS-12)	\$94,476	10%	\$9,448
Quantitative Ecologist (GS-12)	\$80,788	20%	\$16,158
GIS Specialist (GS-11)	\$79,907	70%	\$55,935
Aquatic Ecologist (GS-11)	\$73,792	30%	\$22,138
Data Manager (GS-11)	\$57,547	100%	\$57,547
IT Specialist (GS-11)	\$32,084	90%	\$28,876
Administrative Technician (GS-7)	\$29,955	10%	\$2,996
Administrative Support (MOU with APIS)	\$7,583	0%	\$0
Term Employees			
Data Specialists, I&M portion (3, GS-9)	\$146,922	80%	\$117,538
Inventory Specialist (GS-11)	\$69,926	30%	\$20,978
Data Specialist, GLKN (GS-9; partial year)	\$10,974	100%	\$10,974
Data Specialists, WRD portion (3, GS-9)	\$8,104	30%	\$2,431
Seasonal Employees			
Water quality monitoring	\$9,418	5%	\$471
Bioaccumulative monitoring	\$1,170	5%	\$59
Awards	\$2,574		
Personnel Subtotal	\$705,220		\$345,546
Contracts and Agreements			
Analysis fund projects	\$125,898	30%	\$37,769
Water quality - diatoms	\$71,882	10%	\$7,188
Aerial photography flights	\$64,179	10%	\$6,418
Bioaccumulative - toxics lab (1.5 yrs)	\$49,662	10%	\$4,966
Amphibian monitoring - NRRI, SCA	\$45,915	20%	\$9,183
Water quality - analytical lab & student intern	\$36,562	30%	\$10,969
Maintenance of ArcIMS site	\$25,000	100%	\$25,000
Land cover/land use analysis for MISS	\$11,750	10%	\$1,175
Water quality - gaging stations	\$10,750	50%	\$5,375
Protocol development - QA/QC & ISRO beaver	\$10,198	80%	\$8,158
Landbird training & certification web site	\$8,000	10%	\$800
Bioaccumulative - climber	\$7,000	0%	\$0
Vegetation monitoring - student intern	\$2,887	20%	\$577
Bioaccumulative - transport & consultation	\$2,120	0%	\$0
Spatial themes	\$2,061	10%	\$206
Logo	\$1,110	0%	\$0
Contracts and Agreements Subtotal	\$474,974		\$117,785

Table 10.3. Continued.

Operations and equipment				
Boat, trailer, engines, equip. (for Great Lakes)	\$46,146			
IT (computers, PDAs, GPSs)	\$44,647	50%		\$22,324
Water quality monitoring equipment	\$23,107			
Assessments (MWR computer & 1% ATB)	\$20,468			
Boat and trailer (for inland lakes)	\$8,355			
Utilities (internet, phone)	\$7,543	20%		\$1,509
Library (journals, books)	\$6,861			
Amphibian monitoring field equipment	\$5,878			
Vehicles (GSA lease)	\$5,704			
General field supplies	\$4,024			
Facility modifications	\$3,633			
Office supplies (all accounts)	\$3,430			
Vegetation monitoring field equipment	\$2,078			
Bioaccumulative monitoring field equipment	\$1,802			
Boat fuel & plane (reimbursement to parks)	\$1,396			
Postage	\$778			
Operations and Equipment Subtotal	\$185,850			\$23,832
Travel by Network Staff				
Data Specialists (3, park based)	\$9,835	80%		\$7,868
GIS specialist	\$5,329	20%		\$1,066
Quantitative ecologist	\$4,561			
Coordinator	\$4,483			
Data manager	\$4,425	80%		\$3,540
Aquatic ecologist	\$3,859			
Inventory specialist	\$3,453			
Administrative Assistant and IT Specialist	\$214			
Travel by other NPS Staff				
Water quality monitoring (park staff)	\$3,092			
Technical Committee & Board of Directors	\$2,279			
Vegetation mapping (WASO)	\$958			
Fish monitoring meeting (park)	\$427			
Seasonal quarters (Network & seasonal staff)	\$818			
Travel Subtotal	\$43,732			\$12,474
Unspent balances & reconciliation for all accounts	\$2,824			
Total all Catagories	\$1,412,600	35%		\$499,637